



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS COMMAND
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
L70
21 Mar 06

From: Chair
To: Commanding General (L01)
Via: Director, Studies and Analysis Department (L70)

Subj: MINUTES FROM THE MARINE CORPS MATERIEL READINESS
INTEGRATED PRODUCT TEAM (MRIPT) CONFERENCE OF
7 - 10 MARCH 2006

Encl: (1) MRIPT Conference Attendees List
(2) MRIPT Conference Agenda
(3) MRIPT Action Items

1. Purpose. To provide meeting highlights, document recommendations and a list of after action items resulting from the MRIPT meeting. Additionally, after staffing the MRIPT documentation, recommendations will be submitted to the Overarching MRIPT for consideration and implementation.

2. Travelers and Attendees. Representatives from HQMC (I&L (LP), PP&O (POR)), MARFORCOM, MARFORPAC, MARFORRES, I MEF, II MEF, III MEF, MCCDC (TFS), MCSC (GCSS-MC, PM-LIS, ACPROD), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), MCLC (BICmd, SCMC, MC3, Maint Dir and S&A), the Center for Naval Analyses, and Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC). Please refer to Enclosure (1) for a complete list of attendees.

3. Conference Agenda and Action Items. See Enclosures (2) and (3).

4. Opening Remarks. The conference began with a welcome by Mr., Deputy Director, Studies and Analysis Department, Marine Corps Logistics Command. Major General welcomed the group and challenged them to stretch beyond the constraints of the MRIPT Charter to explore new readiness reporting rule sets. He emphasized the MRIPT should seize the opportunity to take advantage of the collective knowledge and expertise of the participants representing individual commands throughout the Marine Corps. He encouraged discussions/debates to ensure all possibilities were vetted and looked forward to the groups recommendations during the out-brief.

Mrs. facilitated the group throughout the remainder of the week in addressing the various issues, policies, procedures, and decision support tools effecting Marine Corps Ground Equipment Materiel Readiness.

5. Major Issues. The following topics were discussed:

a. Readiness Issues. Lieutenant Colonel, Major and Capt, HQMC, I&L, LPO, joined the group via VTC.

- (1) First topic of discussion was review of the draft MCO 3000.11E.
- (2) Of particular interest to the group were the required revisions to the roles and responsibilities of Blount Island Command and the inconsistencies between the "S" and "R" calculations in MARES reporting as opposed to the calculations in SORTS reporting.
- (3) Action (1) was taken to collect, analyze and standardize Ground Equipment Readiness Reporting.
- (4) The next topic of discussion was a review of the MCBul 3000 Change 1, to include the categorization of equipment into "Major Essential Equipment (MEE)" and all other readiness reportable "Principal End Items (PEI)".
- (5) Action (2) was taken to determine the feasibility of merging the two categories (MEE and PEI); focus will be on the impact to funding, relationship to CORE, and differences in managing the equipment inventories.
- (6) Finally, serialized tracking emerged as a topic requiring immediate attention in order to accurately depict asset visibility.
- (7) Action (8) established a short-term plan to ensure all units are upgraded to the minimal requirement of ATLASS 4.0, which provides the capability to input serial numbers. The long-term solution will be the upgrade of all units to ATLASS 4.0.2, which is currently targeted for 4th quarter.

b. Capabilities Based Readiness Reporting. Lieutenant Colonel, MARFORRES, provided an overview of the OSD vision to move the Services towards Capabilities Based Readiness Reporting. The focus of this effort is built upon the operational, training and sustainment requirements that provide the ability to reconcile statuses in a closed loop collaborative environment. Although the group realized this is an OSD initiative, all agreed that the Marine Corps should act now and strive to set the standard. Action (10) determines if any other group within the Marine Corps is already addressing the Capabilities Based Readiness Reporting. If so, all agreed that the MRIPT should participate on the existing team to offer expertise in identifying future requirements. If not, the MRIPT will move forward with leading the effort.

c. Defense Readiness Reporting System (DRRS). Lieutenant Colonel, HQMC, PO, POR, provided an overview of the Defense Readiness Reporting System and OSD's plan for implementation. Lieutenant Colonel also provided the group with an information briefing on the GSORTs/ESORTs process, highlighting the nuances of each of these reporting requirements.

d. Blount Island Command (BICmd). Ms., Director of Logistics Operations for BICmd, provided an overview of the unique challenges the Marine Corps/BICmd faces as a result of equipment movement from IZ during OIF. Ms. informed the group that great strides have been made towards visibility of On-Island Equipment, however visibility of in-transit assets and retrograde equipment is an area that still needs to be addressed. She suggested that visibility of retrograded assets when receipted at Blount Island should be considered for the next AIMS/MERIT automated feed. Ms. Miner indicated that the initial automated data feed for On-Island Assets from AIMS to MERIT is expected to occur within the next couple of weeks.

e. Supply and Maintenance Reconciliation. This discussion was led by Chief Warrant Officer 4, SCMC, LOGCOM and Mr., S&A, LOGCOM, and was a pending action item from the previous MRIPT. The group discussed the requirement to align the Unit Identification Codes (UIC) and the Activity Address Codes (AAC) to accurately display readiness percentages as battalions are rolled up into units and units are rolled up into MEFs for a consolidated readiness picture. Since Total Force Structure Management System (TFSMS) is the authoritative source for Marine Corps Force

Structure, as the TFSMS records are being validated, this problem should be resolved as the corrected data automatically feeds into SASSY. The group also discussed the importance of accurate and complete data input, such as serial numbers, meter readings, labor hours, etc. Action (11) release a message reiterating the importance of accurate and complete data input, emphasizing the fact that Marine Corps leaders are using this information to make decisions and that these decisions, if based on inaccurate data, could negatively impact the Marine Corps.

f. Supply Operational Effectiveness Tool (SOE). Captain, MCSC provided an informational brief on SOE. SOE is a decision support tool that calculates and summarizes key reliability, maintainability, and availability (RAM) metrics, and incorporates a criticality analysis methodology on parts and principal end items PEIs. This tool is being integrated into the Life Cycle Modeling Integrator (LCMI) (MERIT) architecture and is being developed to assist Program Managers with program level Life Cycle Management decisions.

g. One Number Readiness Reporting. This has been a topic for several MRIPT sessions. The purpose of this initiative is to standardize readiness reporting across the Marine Corps Enterprise. The end state is to ensure authoritative sources are used for maintenance, supply and total force structure when calculating materiel readiness. The "One Number" Concept is based on the fact that TFSMS is the authoritative source for allowances, SASSY is the authoritative source for on-hand assets and MARES is the authoritative source for equipment condition/deadlines. The MRIPT agreed the transition to One Number should be addressed in a phased approach. The initial step has been taken, which is to display the discrepancies between MARES and SASSY data in MERIT. Also, the difference in readiness between current reporting and "One Number" reporting needs to be better understood and clearly visible in MERIT. The next step is to determine the impact to readiness. Action (15) over the next few months, metrics and a pilot test will be defined in a coordinated environment between the MARFORs and LOGCOM. MARFORPAC agreed to conduct a pilot program that will test the impact of implementing the One Number concept and will reveal potential problems that may be encountered should this philosophy be adopted in the Marine Corps. The results of this analysis will be presented to the membership at the next MRIPT, where the group will determine the recommended way ahead.

h. Enterprise Visibility. One of the main goals of the MRIPT is to provide a capability to display visibility of all assets in the Marine Corps. Although a major hurdle was overcome with the visibility of in-stores assets through MERIT, the group strongly encouraged LOGCOM to develop business rules for prioritization of in-stores assets. Currently, the distribution is (1) DMFA, (2) MARFORRES T/E delta, and then (3) Net WRMR, with 100% fill rate for each prioritized category prior to allocating assets to the next category. Of particular interest to COMMARFORRES is for their T/E delta, which is computed from in-stores assets. MARFORRES and LOGCOM will work together to develop business rules to allow MARFORRES to perform adhoc "what if" stratification analysis for their delta assets. This will serve to better state equipment readiness rates when applying in-stores equipment to specific MFR units.

i. Supply and Maintenance Performance Analysis. Lieutenant, MARFORRES, provided a demonstration of an Access database developed by MARFORRES in an attempt provide an automated means to better understand maintenance and supply information and focus in on problem areas within specific measures of effectiveness. The group agreed that this program provided an initial performance analysis capability that is needed across the MARFORs today and could also be used by the Data Analysis Teams (DAT) once established. One of the functions of the DATs will be to assist the MARFORs in ensuring data accuracy and fidelity for property control and accountability, ensuring records synchronization and accountability across logistics legacy AIS files. The membership agreed that the MARFORs needed a Supply and Maintenance Performance Tool, Action (9) develops a plan to provide the automated means through LCMI.

j. WIR Online Process Handler (WOLPH). Mr., LOGCOM, S&A, provided an overview of recent enhancements to WOLPH. This discussion led to requests for further enhancements. The MCSC Project Officer for WOLPH, Ms., provided the group with an update regarding the conversion of WOLPH from LOTUS Notes to an Oracle platform and the timeline associated with that conversion. Ms. also informed the group that the intent of the Executive Steering Committee was to restrict further enhancement of WOLPH until the software conversion was completed. The MRIPT requested an audience with Mr., LOGCOM, C4, Executive Steering Committee member, to discuss

the MRIPT's relationship with the WOLPH Working Group and to address requirements for immediate enhancement. Mr. reemphasized the timeline for conversion to an Oracle platform, but agreed to consider implementing additional enhancements submitted by the MRIPT.

k. Logistics Modernization (LOGMOD). Captain, HQMC (I&L) provided an update on the LOGMOD initiative, which is the largest coordinated and cross-organizational transformation effort ever undertaken to transform USMC logistics. LOGMOD will focus on changes to the following key areas - people, processes and technology. Improvements to personnel skill sets will be made through Marine Logistics Group reorganizations, changes to the Military Occupational Specialty construct and investments in logistics training. Developing the logistics operational architecture, realignment of supply and maintenance and improvements to MAGTF distribution, should result in vast improvements in Marine Corps processes. Technology improvements will be accomplished through a long-term goal of modernization and integration, and will be addressed short-term through bridge solutions which lay the ground work of capabilities that must be included in the final product.

l. Logistics Modernization Team (LMT). Master Gunnery Sergeant HQMC, I&L, LPV, provided an overview of various LMT initiatives that are currently underway. The LMTs are currently standing up Data Assurance Teams (DATs) and hope to have teams in place for I and II MEFs by June 06. Master Gunnery Sergeant also informed the group that the LMTs provide a "Train the Trainer" service to the MARFORs for both TFSMS and MERIT.

m. Global Combat Support System (GCSS). Master Gunnery Sergeant, MCSC, GCSS, provided a status update for GCSS-MC Block One Implementation, with Initial Operating Capability scheduled for FY09.

n. 4th Echelon of Maintenance (EOM). Mr. and Mr., LOGCOM, SCMC, conducted a working group meeting to discuss various initiatives with the realignment of maintenance.

7. Conclusion. This was the eleventh session of the MRIPT, many of the original objectives have been met, as evidenced by the observations of Dr., CNA. Dr. is the Scientific Analyst that supported the MRIPT during its initial planning phases and was instrumental in establishing the Marine Corps Materiel

Readiness Roadmap for Success. Dr. was invited to participate in the MRIPT to provide an analysis of our efforts to date and to offer recommendations relative to the future focus of the group. To date, the ability of the Marine Corps to report equipment readiness has been improved from reporting data that is 90 days old to reporting data that is "near real time". The Marine Corps now has a single materiel readiness reporting picture, with common language and integrated supply and maintenance views. Our focus has shifted from a reactive to a more proactive, needs based readiness approach. Dr. Deal encouraged the group and applauded their successes. But more importantly, she challenged the group to shift the focus to better understanding materiel readiness. Areas for consideration include influencing OSD Readiness Reporting processes and procedures, working on non-supply and maintenance materiel readiness drivers, and applying lessons learned about materiel readiness to training and manpower. The group strongly agreed with Dr. suggestions and eagerly looks forward to our next session, when we can begin the next adventure.

CHAIR, MRIPT

cc:

OMRIPT Members

MRIPT Members, Attendees and Briefers